

Andrew Jackson to James Monroe, January 19, 1815, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

TO BRIGADIER-GENERAL JAMES WINCHESTER.

“ Camp 4 miles below N Orleans ” January 19, 1815.

D'r Genl: From the affair of the 8th to 12 oclock P M on the 18th I kept up a harrassing fire on the enemy when he precipitately retreated to his flotilla leaving Eighty wounded including two officers, and fourteen peaces of heavy artillery, six Eighteen pounders on their carriages compleat. The enemy on the morning of the 18th retreated from before Fort St Phillips after bombarding it for nine days with no other effect than killing one man and wounding seven—throwing upwards of 1000 shells from a 13½ Inch mortar. Louisiana is now clear of an enemy, where he may attempt to strike, or whether he is able to strike at all is uncertain. The Prisoner[s] acknowledge a loss of upwards of 4000, the Flower of their army and all their valuable officers. Lt Genl Packingham, and Major Genl Gibbs are both dead. Major General Kean is badly wounded. Major Genl Lambart is said to have went crasy, and the British army now commanded by a Colo. Still we must be vigilant and on the alert—my whole effectives with arms on the 8th instant did not amount to 4000—three thousand on the left bank engaged my regular force 550—nearly two thirds of whom are not better than raw militia. But with this force with vigilence I have defeated this Boasted army of Lord Wellingtons—double my numbers at least. Should this crippled army attempt to vissit you on their Passage home you will give a good account of them. I think they are bound for Bermuda, there to await further orders—and as soon as there defeat reaches gent1 we will have peace in my oppinion. respectfully yours in haste

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